

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05
CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EPG-02 EB-07 FPC-01 H-01
INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04
USIA-06 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07
DLOS-09 PA-01 PRS-01 /136 W
-----071201Z 096346 /50

R 071110Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5857
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
USLO RIYADH
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
CINCUSNAVEUR
SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 9469

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLOS ENRG PORG TS LY EG
SUBJECT: LIBYAN-TUNISIAN DRILLING DISPUTE

REF: TUNIS 3951

1. ARAB LEAGUE SYG MAHMUD RIAD DEPARTING CAIRO JUNE 7 TO
PRESIDE OVER MEETING OF TUNISIAN FONMIN CHATTI AND LIBYAN FONMIN
TURAYKI. ACCORDING TUNISIAN EMBOFF RESPONSIBLE FOR ARAB LEAGUE
AFFAIRS, MEETING WAS TO HAVE BEEN HELD IN CAIRO BUT WAS
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RESCHEDULED FOR TUNIS AT QADHAFI INSISTENCE (NOBLE GESTURE
CATEGORY). IT APPEARS THAT HABIB ACHOUR HAS BEEN ACTING AS
PRINCIPAL GO BETWEEN.

2. TUNISIANS, EMBOFF SAID, ARE HOLDING LIBYA TO ITS DECLARATION
THAT IT READY TO ACCEPT ARBITRATION; TUNISIANS PROFESS TO HAVE
COMPLETE SYMPATHY OF MAHMUD RIAD. HE IS LIKELY, IN VIEW OF

TUNISIAN EMBOFF, TO PROPOSE THAT EACH SIDE NAME ONE ARBITRATOR, WITH THIRD TO BE SELECTED EITHER BY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO SELECTED, BY AL SYG, OR BY AL MEMBERSHIP.

3. EMBOFF SAID TUNISIANS WILL BE CONTENT WITH ANY SOLUTION THAT "FREEZES SITUATION". THIS COULD MEAN EITHER CESSATION OF READING AND BATES OPERATIONS PENDING ARBITRATION DECISION OR SOME COMPROMISE WHEREBY FULL OPERATIONS WOULD CONTINUE AND CONTRACT THEN REVERT FULLY TO GOVERNMENT AWARDED FAVORABLE DECISION. TUNISIAN SAYS HIS GOVERNMENT NOT RPT NOT INTERESTED IN ANY JOINT EXPLOITATION ARRANGEMENT WITH LIBYANS.

4. TUNISIAN EMBOFF AGREED THAT BOURGUIBA NOW TAKING CONCILIATORY LINE BUT ARGUED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT UNDER NO ILLUSIONS THAT QADHAFI IS TO BE TRUSTED FULLY IN THIS MATTER. EMBOFF AT LOSS TO EXPLAIN CURRENT LIBYAN TACK, BUT SPECULATED THAT THERE SOME CONNECTION WITH QADHAVI'S RECENT EFFORT TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH EGYPT AND SUDAN. (GOE, HE COMMENTED, CONVINCED THIS WILL BE SHORT-LIVED PHASE.) POSSIBLE THIS MEANT REDUCING PRESSURES IN EAST SO AS TO FACILITATE OPERATIONS AGAINST TUNISIANS, BUT THEY UNCONCERNED BECAUSE THEY DO NOT BELIEVE QADHAFI POSES SERIOUS MILITARY THREAT.

5. EMBOFF CLAIMED THAT EGYPTIANS FULLY SUPPORT TUNISIAN POSITION AND ARE PREPARED TO DISSUADE QADHAFI FROM ANY ADVENTURES AGAINST TUNISIA. ASKED IF THIS IMPLIED ARMS SUPPLIES OR EVEN MILITARY INVOLVEMENT, EMBOFF EMPHATICALLY SAID THAT IT DID.

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770684/aaaacvst.tel
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Litigation History:
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TAGS: PLOS, ENRG, PORG, TS, LY, EG, ARAB LEAGUE
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Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e4a7bf83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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